PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-68718-4 Attorney Client Matter No.: 463037-00220

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

BLACKBURN et al.

Serial No. 09/993,342

Filed: November 5, 2001

For: Devices and Methods for Biochip

Multiplexing

Art Unit: 1744

Examiner: REDDING, David A.

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 25, 2004. Accompanying this Response is a Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 CFR §136(a) extending the period for response by 2 months, to and including March 25, 2005, a RCE Transmittal, and the necessary fees. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees, including for extensions of time or other relief as required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No.:A-68718-4/(463037-220) RFT/RMS).

Pending Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

An Appendix including replacement sheets of formal drawings is attached following the Remarks.